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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT Radio Installation  
at Berlin-Grünau

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1. The central station for all political radio broadcasts in the Russian Zone of Germany is located at Regattastrasse 277, Berlin-Grünau. This station has cable connections with transmitters at Königswusterhausen (V-02), Tegel (Z-75), Schwerin, Beelitz (Z-51), Leipzig, Weimar, and Dresden. Some of these cables run through the main Berlin radio station, the Funkhaus on the Masurenallee, where the transmissions are switched into various channels, but a number of the cables run directly to the outlying transmitters and can be put to immediate use. It is not certain how many of the cables are ready for direct transmission, but it is definitely known that the Grünau-Königswusterhausen and Grünau-Beelitz lines, at least, have been successfully employed.
2. Oberingenieur Schmölling, the technical chief of the Grünau installation, has remarked that the equipment at Regattastrasse 277 is among the most modern and efficient in Europe. The input apparatus and the amplifiers are especially fine. Schmölling claims that his station can pick up Moscow transmissions from the neighboring Russian receiver at Regattastrasse 189 and amplify them and relay them to any transmitter in the Russian Zone.
3. Schmölling's equipment is partly of new construction, but much of it consists of dismantled Masurenallee apparatus. The latter station has now only the most basic equipment at its disposal and no longer even possesses an amplifying set. Oberingenieur Heckmann, technical chief of the Masurenallee Funkhaus, complains that his installation is forced to subsist on makeshift apparatus which frequently breaks down in the middle of transmissions. Few technicians at the Masurenallee are aware of the existence of the Regattastrasse setup.
4. The Grünau station is equipped with a small but usable directional transmitter. This was to be used only until the four regular directional transmitters at Beelitz were put into full operation. This, according to Schmölling, was accomplished by mid-April 1948. Also employed at Grünau are the so-called "Olympic lines" (Olympia Leitungen) which were laid in 1936 for the special transmission of news concerning the Olympic Games.

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5. Supervision of activities at the Funkhaus is conducted by Russian engineers, but all phases of the work at Regattastrasse 277 are handled by Germans, including even the political direction. During April the Grünau station was engaged in recording speeches by SIA officers, SED personalities, and FDGB leaders. These were not immediately transmitted, however, but held for later use. A proclamation by Sokolovski and two speeches by General Kotikov were among the items recorded. The nature of some of the recordings and the names of certain speakers are kept secret and are withheld from the technical staff.
6. The house at Regattastrasse 277 is vigilantly guarded by five German watchmen and five to ten Russian sentries. The house at Regattastrasse 189 is guarded by Russian military police and a permanent detail of ten soldiers. A military police detachment and an MVD staff occupy the nearby house at 239 Regattastrasse. The entire area containing these buildings is surrounded by a six-foot barbed-wire fence. 25X1
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